

Governor's Council on Disability Meeting Minutes November 14, 2008

Council Members Present/Participating:

Karen Benson, Joan Bergstrom, Ed. D., Joe Colagiovanni, Ed Duff, Gregory Greven, Todd Mayfield, Sue Orton, Renee Powell, Joe Sartorius

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Mike Esser, Matthew Hughes, Mary Ellen Jenison, Molly Tallarico

Unexcused Absences:

Sarah Olson, Dr. Hani Soudah

Department Liaisons:

Kristin Funk (Dept. of Economic Development – DED/DWD), Walter Johannpeter (Office of Administration – Facility Management, Design and Construction – OA-FMDC), Chris Larsen (Department of Health and Senior Services – DHSS), Phyllis Launius (Office of the State Court Administrator - OSCA), Tim McDonald (Missouri State Highway Patrol – MSHP), Robin Rust (DMH)

Staff:

Linda Baker, Donna Borgmeyer, Claudia Browner, Isabelle Harris

Guests:

Pat Rowe Kerr, State Veterans Ombudsman and Director, Operation Outreach, Missouri Veterans Commission
Jamie Reed, Operation Outreach Specialist, Missouri Veterans Commission

Real Time Captioner: Debbie Reithmeyer

Interim Chair Karen Benson called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. With nine Council members in attendance, there was a quorum for the meeting. (The quorum was established after the reports from the Interim Chair and Executive Director.)

The agenda for the day was approved. Ed Duff requested an amendment to the September 19 meeting minutes to reflect his objection to the low percentage of Council members with disabilities being represented on the Council. By unanimous vote, the meeting minutes were approved as amended.

Report from Interim Council Chair Karen Benson:

- The proposed changes to the Bylaws have been approved by majority vote.
- Beginning with this meeting, unexcused absences of Council members will be reflected in the minutes.
- GCD staff will put together a notebook for all Council members and department liaisons. This notebook will contain information about the Governor's Council on Disability to include the Strategic Plan, Bylaws, Statute, Annual Report, Program

Information, Rosters, Meeting Schedule, Agendas and Minutes and other pertinent information.

- A transition report for the new administration will be written by Karen Benson with the assistance of the following volunteers: Joe Colagiovanni, Greg Greven, and Renee Powell. This report is intended to educate the new administration about the purpose and mission of the GCD.

Action Items: Put together GCD notebooks for Council members & liaisons.
Write transition report for new administration.

Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:

Linda Baker summarized her ED report.

Missouri Disability Portal:

Linda demonstrated the newly created Disability Portal (www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov) and the redesigned GCD website.

Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF):

The 2009 Missouri Youth Leadership Forum will be held July 26-29, 2009. Linda asked for volunteers and donations to support this program.

Business Leadership Network (BLN):

The Greater Kansas City BLN is in the process of hiring a part-time executive director to get this program off the ground.

Inclusion Awards:

GCD has received twelve nominations for the 2008 Inclusion Awards. A panel of judges (Council member and state liaison volunteers) will select a winner for each category by November 26, 2008.

Poster & Journalism contest:

The theme for the 2009 Poster & Journalism contest is "Inclusion: Expanding Opportunities". Contest announcements have been sent to Missouri schools and deadline for submission of entries is February 27, 2009.

Old Business:

Strategic Plan:

The revised strategic plan for 2009-10 was approved by unanimous vote. It will be included in the GCD notebook and posted on the GCD website.

Dr. Bergstrom and Karen Benson commended and thanked Linda for her work on this document.

New Business:

Percentage of Council members with disabilities

Ed Duff voiced his concern that GCD may not be in compliance with the statute in regards to the required 51% majority of Council members with disabilities. In order to

establish the percentage of Council members with disabilities, Karen Benson asked the Council members for approval to conduct a count of how many members have a disability. With the approval of all present Council members, each member was asked to indicate whether or not they have a disability. The count revealed that the majority of the Council members have a disability and that GCD is in compliance with the statute.

Council Membership

Council terms and reappointments were discussed. Council members are expected to serve on the Council until the Governor replaces them, even if their term has expired. Karen Benson asked those whose term has expired if they are still interested in serving on the Council, which all answered with a yes.

The Council membership should be reviewed annually at the July Council meeting. Karen Benson and Linda Baker will work on recommendations for appointments to the Council. These recommendations will be reviewed at the January meeting before being submitted to the Director of Boards and Commissions in the Governor's office.

Meeting Dates for 2009

A Council member brought up a concern over the Friday meeting dates. It was decided to discuss the meeting dates at the January meeting.

Proposition B – Quality Home Care Council

Proposition B which creates a Quality Home Care Council was passed in the election. Council members discussed funding for this council. Karen Benson announced that she would advocate for having the work of the Quality Home Care Council delegated to an existing council rather than using funding to create a new council. Joe Colagiovanni confirmed that he would have a lawyer from his staff research the ballot language and draft a letter to the transition team to make these recommendations. This agenda item will be reviewed at the January meeting.

Action item: Put Council membership on agenda for January meeting.
Work on recommendations for appointments to the Council.
Discuss 2009 meeting dates at January meeting.
Research Prop B language and draft letter/ add Quality Home Care Council to January agenda.

Department Liaison Information:

The department liaisons introduced themselves and gave an update about their departments.

Robin Rust (DMH) reported that about 150 people attended a Consumer Youth Leadership Summit held at St. Patrick Center in St. Louis. This will become an annual event. Due to accessibility issues, the event will be held at a different location next year.

DMH has received 43 nominations for the annual Mental Health Champions awards. One winner will be selected in each of the three categories of Mental Illness, Developmental Disabilities, and Alcohol and Drug Abuse. DMH also sponsors a Director's Creativity

Showcase where DMH service recipients can submit a piece of art or craft to be displayed and/or sold in different exhibits.

Governor Blunt has issued an Executive Order to change the name for the Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities to Division of Developmental Disabilities.

The Division of DD is in the process of hiring twelve part-time advocates for the Regional Offices throughout the State of Missouri.

Phyllis Launius (OSCA) reported about training for court clerks she conducted in October on the issues of ADA, FMLA, and the Employee Assistance Program. Due to its success, this training will again be offered in May. In addition, there will be ADA training for judges in 2009. Deaf Way St. Louis is offering video sign language interpretation for court proceedings and hearings throughout the State of Missouri.

The Council asked Phyllis to provide a 15-minute update on the ADA at the January meeting.

Chris Larson (DHSS) reported that DHSS has received a federal grant to work on hospital discharge planning. On the federal level, there is an initiative to upgrade the minimum data set (MDS) in nursing homes.

Kristin Funk (DED/DWD) reported that eight of the nine disability navigator positions have been filled. In September, the disability navigator for the Springfield area organized a Disability Mentoring Day event at St. John's Hospital to promote hiring people with disabilities.

Action Items: Update on the ADA during the January meeting.

Presentation by Pat Rowe Kerr

Pat Rowe Kerr, State Veterans Ombudsman and Director of Operation Outreach with the Missouri Veterans Commission gave a presentation about the services available to veterans returning home from Afghanistan and Iraq. Accredited Veterans Service Officers around the State are available to assist the 543,000 veterans in Missouri in accessing the benefits they are eligible for.

Committee Meetings:

Recess was taken for lunch while Legislative Committee and Program Committee members met.

Committee Reports:

Programs Committee (Sue Orton reporting):

The programs committee recommended the following programs for the 2009 council meetings:

- Amtrak transportation mobility manager
- Discussion on council structure and committees (January)
- Mentoring for adults with disabilities
- Representative from house and senate appropriations committee (January)
 - Gather information from state department liaisons on programs which might be affected negatively and issue letter/statement of support to sustain programs (Joe Colagiovanni and Joe Sartorius)

Legislative Committee (Karen Benson reporting):

The following steps will be taken for the upcoming Legislative Education Project (LEP) training:

- New volunteers are needed to provide the 3-day LEP training during the legislative session. Donna Borgmeyer and Greg Greven will recruit people from the Independent Living Centers and SILC.
- Train advocates in conducting the LEP.
- Begin issuing certificate of completion to encourage LEP participants' active participation in all three days of the training.
- Send out survey at the end of the session to inquire about advocacy issues that participants have been involved in after completing their LEP training.
- One-day customized training will still be offered.

Action Items:

Invite representative from house and senate appropriations committee to January meeting.
Draft letter/statement of support to sustain department programs.
Recruit volunteers to conduct LEP training.

Public Comment

None.

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.

The next Council meeting will be held **Friday, January 9, 2009 at 9:30 AM** at the Governor's Office Building in Jefferson City, Room **315**.

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Put together GCD notebooks for Council members & liaisons	Claudia Browner
Write transition report for new administration.	Karen Benson, Linda Baker, Joe Colagiovanni, Greg Greven and Renee Powell
Work on recommendations for appointments to the Council.	Karen Benson, Linda Baker
Research Proposition B language and draft letter regarding Quality Home Care Council.	Joe Colagiovanni
Invite representative from house/senate appropriations committee to January meeting.	Linda Baker, Karen Benson
Draft letter/statement of support to sustain department programs.	Joe Colagiovanni, Joe Sartorius
Recruit volunteers to conduct LEP training.	Donna Borgmeyer, Greg Greven

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I
November 19, 2008